

Saint Katherine of Siena School

9738 Frankford Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19114

August 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to St. Katherine of Siena Parish School and our St. Katherine of Siena family! Thank you for choosing a Catholic education for your child. With you we share an important goal to provide an excellent educational beginning for your child in a nurturing, loving environment that is committed to Catholic values and ideals.

If you have not already done so, please familiarize yourself with St. Katherine of Siena plan for a safe and healthy school environment at:

<https://sksphila.org/covid-plan-2020-2021>. Also in this email is information on some of the health and safety requirements for kindergarten as well as information regarding virtual learning.

Please remember those plans are subject to change according to current CDC/DOH guidelines.

Virtual Parent Orientation Meeting~ Tuesday, September 8th from 6:00-7:00

There will be an **important Parent Orientation Night for all parents of children entering Kindergarten on Tuesday, September 8th from 6:00-7:00**. This will be done virtually through a Zoom meeting. The virtual meeting is to ensure your child's classroom remains sanitized for the children's arrival on Thursday. One parent/guardian is strongly encouraged to attend this very important meeting. **During the meeting we will review procedures and provide information about the curriculum.** The virtual meeting will take place from our classroom in order for you to be able to view the classroom setting. We also invite your child to join the meeting at 6:45 for a story and to virtually meet your child's teacher. 😊

The opportunity to ask questions will also be provided. Please be on the lookout for the invitation to this meeting in the coming weeks.

Schedule for the first 2 days of Kindergarten

The first day for KINDERGARTEN is Thursday, September 10th. Arrival on this day and Friday, September 11th will be at **8:30**. Dismissal will be at **11:30** on **both** days. Both arrival and dismissal will be at the entrance to McBride Hall. We will be using a car drop off and pick up system for both arrival and dismissal. More information will be provided during the virtual Parent Orientation Meeting.

NOTE: There is no lunch or CARES on the first two days of school. Please pack a snack, drink, and towel for your child on these two days.

We encourage you to be on time for school, beginning the very first day. Also, be sure to make arrangements to have your child picked up at the correct times on these days.

Full days begin on Monday, September 14th for Kindergarten. Daily arrival is no later than 7:50 for Kindergarten. Dismissal time to be determined.

Kindergarten Uniform

Kindergarten children wear the gym uniform (Navy blue shorts and gray SKS t-shirt) and white sneakers. Uniforms are available for purchase at Flynn & O'Hara.

Your child will need to wear a face covering/mask daily. (Children are to wear face masks as specified by the current recommendations by the CDC/DOH.)

We encourage parents/guardians to obtain 6 washable masks, one for each day of the week and have one extra mask in the school bag. (6 is not a mandate, but students should have at least 2 at all times.) You may also choose to purchase a lanyard for your child to ensure the mask does not fall to the ground.

Stationery/Supply List

The stationery/supply list can be found at the end of this email and on the SKS website at www.sksphila.org under the Communication tab. With regards to the stationery/supply list, certain items like the Clorox disinfecting wipes and Lysol spray may be extremely difficult to find at this time. You are NOT required to purchase these items, but if you come across those items and would like to donate them to your child's classroom, we would greatly appreciate those cleaning supplies. St. Katherine of Siena will purchase cleaning products for the school and classrooms, but donations are always needed and welcomed.

Please send the following items with your child on the first day of school:

- Your child's plastic supply box (8"x5") ~please print your child's name on the box with black marker.

****We are kindly asking that you please put the following items inside the supply box: one pair of Fiskars brand scissors, two jumbo glue sticks, a 16-pack of crayons, 4 sharpened pencils (Please remove all outer packaging from scissors, crayons, glue sticks, and pencils. Thank you so much!)**

- 2 5-oz containers of play dough
- coloring book to be kept in school in your child's desk/cubby

Please PRINT your child's name on everything! Thank you!

We look forward to meeting you virtually on September 8th.

God bless you and your family as we begin this exciting journey together.

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Teachers

Mrs. Kathleen Rieser and Miss Emily Fox

St. Katherine of Siena Kindergarten Safety and Cleaning Procedures

1. Plans regarding the health and safety of all individuals will be put in place throughout the school year and communicated with parents/guardians.
2. The wearing of shields/masks is required for all faculty and staff.
3. The wearing of masks is not required for children under the age of seven. However, all kindergarten students will be required to wear a mask entering and exiting the school building and in public areas like hallways and in the bathrooms. Children do not have to wear a mask in their individual classrooms, but may do so if parents wish their child to wear a mask. All students will be required to have a second facemask in a paper bag in their school bag.
4. Parents/Guardians will not be permitted to enter the building during morning arrival.
5. Teachers will monitor children for signs of illness. Any child with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will not be admitted for the school day. Parents/Guardians will be required to take their child home.
6. If your child becomes ill during the school day, a parent/guardian must pick the child up from school.
7. Parents/Guardians must e-mail their child's teacher if they are not coming to school. The parent must also notify the school office.
8. All classrooms will be sanitized throughout the day. This includes the wiping down of surfaces, sanitization of classroom toys and manipulatives, cleaning door knobs and frequent touch surfaces, etc.
9. There will be no sharing of food or treats for birthday/holiday celebrations.
10. If a student is sick, unrelated to COVID-19, they will not be provided with virtual assignments.
11. In the event that your child has been exposed to COVID-19 and must quarantine for 14 days, your child will be responsible for completing daily Seesaw activities.
12. In the event that the cohort needs to be quarantined and all learning needs to be virtual, kindergarten students will be required to attend Zoom lessons from 9 am- 11 am each day. They will also be responsible for completing all Seesaw activities.

13. All students are required to follow the St. Katherine of Siena Ongoing Plan for a Healthy, Secure, and Safe School Community. This plan can be found at <https://sksphila.org/covid-plan-2020-2021>.

